

Remarks

The following remarks are submitted to address all issues in this case, and to put this case in condition for allowance. Applicants amend the claims in this case simply to better define the subject matter of the present invention and correct a claim numbering reference; no new matter is added in these amendments. The Examiner stated application claims 1-32 are pending in the application; Applicants note that claims 5, 7, and 31 had been previously cancelled. Application claims 1, 26, and 27 are the only independent claims. Applicants have studied the Office Action mailed November 20, 2007 (“Office Action”) and has the following remarks.

Allowed Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for his indication that claims 26-30 and 32 are allowed.

35 USC § 112

The Examiner stated that claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 USC § 112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants note that only claims 1-4, 6, and 8-25 are pending, and addresses the rejection as applicable only to those claims. The Examiner asserted that “[i]t is unclear what Applicant is referring to when claiming the ‘first rotator’ and the ‘second rotator.’” (Office Action, p. 2). Without admitting the correctness of the Examiner’s statement that the term “rotator” was unsupported, Applicants have replaced the term “rotator” with the term “footpad assembly,” which is discussed in the specification at, among other places, p. 10, l. 23 - p. 11, l. 1; p. 18, ll. 6-15; and p. 20 l. 12 - p. 21 l. 18 as items 907 and 909. Applicants contend that the terms are interchangeable in meaning and therefore the change of term does not further limit the scope of the claims. By thus amending claim 1, Applicants

therefore respectfully conclude that claim 1 and dependent claims 2-4, 6, and 8-25 therefrom comply with the written description requirement and are in position for allowance.

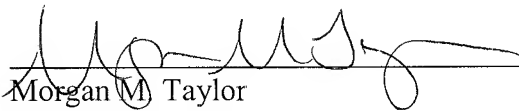
Conclusion

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims so that this case can pass on to issue. Applicants believe no additional fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit to our Deposit Account, No. 50-0975, any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this Response.

If there are any questions regarding this Response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (314) 444-1316.

Respectfully submitted,
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